

# Bay Area Newsreel

Winter / Spring 2023







# SF Wells Fargo Attacked In Solidarity With Atlanta Forest Defenders

by anarchists

Dec 15, 2022

Five windows and an ATM were smashed at the Wells Fargo at 24th Ave and Irving St in retribution for the arrest of five Atlanta forest defenders on bullshit "domestic terrorism" charges.

Mitch Graul, a Lead Business Execution Consultant at Wells Fargo, sits on the Board of Trustees of the Atlanta Police Foundation. Atlanta Police Foundation supports the construction of a massive police training facility in Atlanta's Weelaunee Forest on the land of the Muscogee Creek peoples. The site was a plantation and then a prison farm. The bones in the land demand a reckoning. Anyone who supports Cop City is a target everywhere. Solidarity means attack!

For more info: <https://defendtheatlantaforest.org/>

Bail fund: <https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/contribute-to-the-atlanta-solidarity-fund>

Atlanta Police Foundation board members: <https://atlantapolicfoundation.org/about-the-atlanta-police-foundation/#board-members>

# Skateboarders clash with San Francisco police near Dolores Park

July 11, 2017  
cited from a mainstream news article

SAN FRANCISCO (KGO) -- Things turned ugly when officers in riot gear responded to a large gathering of skaters. It happened at Dolores Park and impacted traffic within a one-block radius of the park.

Just after 7 p.m. units tried breaking up a large crowd and say people started throwing things at officers. Two cruisers were vandalized.

[...]

Officers tried to block skaters on the street with their patrol cars. One person tried to skate around them and flipped over. At one point officers let the crowd continue to skate.

At least one skater was also rushed to the hospital. Local artist Matt "Milanoart" shared video of what he says is Jake Phelps, editor of "Thrasher" magazine taking a nasty spill.

The whole scene ended about two hours after police arrived.

Skaters and other youth also took over two MUNI buses, one covered completely in anti-police graffiti.

Hill bombing has long been a popular showcase of skills among San Francisco's renowned skate scene and undulating streets, commonly at Kearny Street at North Beach, Twins Peaks and Hyde Street. The annual Dolores Hill Bomb is a staple of local skating culture.



## Bank of America in Berkeley hit with STOP COP CITY tags and ATM screens smashed

by 𠄎(••••)

Jul 3, 2023 - from IndyBay

*Last night at 1am the bank of america on college ave was attacked in solidarity with the campaign to stop cop city and weelaunee forest defenders*

LAST NIGHT AT 1AM THE BANK OF AMERICA ON COLLEGE AVE IN BERKELEY WAS ATTACKED IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CAMPAIGN TO STOP COP CITY AND WEELAUNEE FOREST DEFENDERS.

THREE ATM SCREENS WERE SMASHED WITH HAMMER IN FRONT OF THE BANK AND "STOP COP CITY R.I.P TORT" WAS SPRAYED ON THE WALL IN BLACK PAINT.

THIS IS AN EASILY REPRODUCED ACTION. THERE ARE BANK OF AMERICA BUILDINGS ALL OVER.

FUCK THE POLICE  
NO COP CITY ANYWHERE  
410,757,864,530 SMASHED ATMs FOR WEELAUNEE

## Brick thrown at UPS Store Window in Solidarity with #StopCopCity

by 𠄎••?

Jul 8, 2023 -from IndyBay

*Oakland CA, a brick was thrown into the front window of UPS Store in solidarity with #StopCopCity and defense of Weelaunee forest*

On Saturday morning, July 8th, a brick was thrown at the front window of the UPS Store on Telegraph avenue in solidarity with the campaign to Stop Cop City and defend the Weelaunee forest. The action took only a few minutes total. The window was shattered into a cobweb pattern.

This action also was done in solidarity with others in the Bay who have attacked the property of companies and banks invested in the Atlanta police training facility mega project. For example, the recent string of ATM smashing last week were inspiring to learn about.

Hella companies are invested in the destruction of Weelaunee forest and building Cop City ((Home Depot, Chik'Fil'A, UPS, Bank of America)). They have buildings, warehouses, storefronts all over the Bay Area. These are physical sites that can be easily vandalized, smashed up, or made inoperable in other ways. With a few more people and a lookout, the entire UPS store front this morning could have been smashed out within five minutes.

410,757,864,530 broken windows for Weelaunee

## Corcoran, CA



New Year's Eve Noise demonstration took place outside of Corcoran prison. North-South Convergence. From a report by [Oakland Abolition and Solidarity](#)

**“On the last day of 2022 abolitionists drove several hours in the rain from Southern and Northern CA (including the Bay Area) to converge at Corcoran State Prison. About 15 people held an approximately two hour noise demonstration stating at the entrance to the facility. They also marched on the road to an area of fencing nearest some of the cell blocks.**

**There was yelling, chanting, air horns, banging of pots and pans, and several readings of speeches from current and historic inside organizers. Our voices could be heard echoing off of the concrete inside and back to us.**

**Noise demos outside prisons and jails have been a new years tradition for several years amongs abolitionist, anarchists, and others who work against the police state.”**



# Bank Of America Buildings and ATMs across the Bay Area attacked

July 1, 2023

Friday night (June 30th) a total of four Bank of Amerikkka buildings and five ATMs were vandalized or damaged in solidarity with the #StopCopCity campaign and struggle to defend the Weelaunee Forest in so-called Atlanta.

Two Bank of Amerikkka buildings were tagged in Oakland with messages: "Stop Cop City" and "ACAB"

The BofA on 50 California St. in San Francisco was spray painted with words "Stop Cop City" and the screens on its ATM machines smashed with hammers.

The BofA on Sunvalley Blvd. in Concord was spray painted with words "Stop Cop City" and three of its ATMs had screens entirely smashed out with hammers.

## Vengeance from Oakland – ¡Viva Tortuguita!

January 20th 2023

On the night of January 20th 2023, 30 mournful anarchists took vengeful action against our enemies for the murder of Cami/Tortuguita in the Atlanta Forest two days prior. We shattered dozens of windows along the glass facade of a Bank of America building in downtown Oakland, destroyed the ATM's, and repainted the walls with people's messages of love, memory, solidarity, and rage at the assassination of our comrade before lighting the place up with molotov cocktails.

Bank of America is an enemy of the people and life itself. They currently fund the construction of cop city in Atlanta, the same project that threatens the forest that Tortuguita died defending. They deserve no place in our landscape. We destroyed quickly but tirelessly. Like the peasants in the Jacquerie, the Luddite wreckers, or the Haitian revolutionaries, we seek liberation in the most obvious way: the destruction of what we know is the cause of our suffering. And if we destroy much, it is because we have suffered much. "Vengeance! Vengeance!" is our war-cry.

To our enemies who seek to liquidate our lives and the earth: you will not murder us with impunity! We will strike back, each time more fiercely than before. The more you take from us, the more we have to fight for—the less we have to lose.

To our fallen comrades: your deaths will never be in vain! We will avenge you one thousand times over! Your blood is our blood. Your lives light the path of our struggle, and this is only the beginning.

We support Tortuguita whether they shot at the pigs or not. A shot fired at police is an act of liberation.

TORTUGUITA VIVE, LA LUCHA SIGUE

MARTYRS NEVER DIE

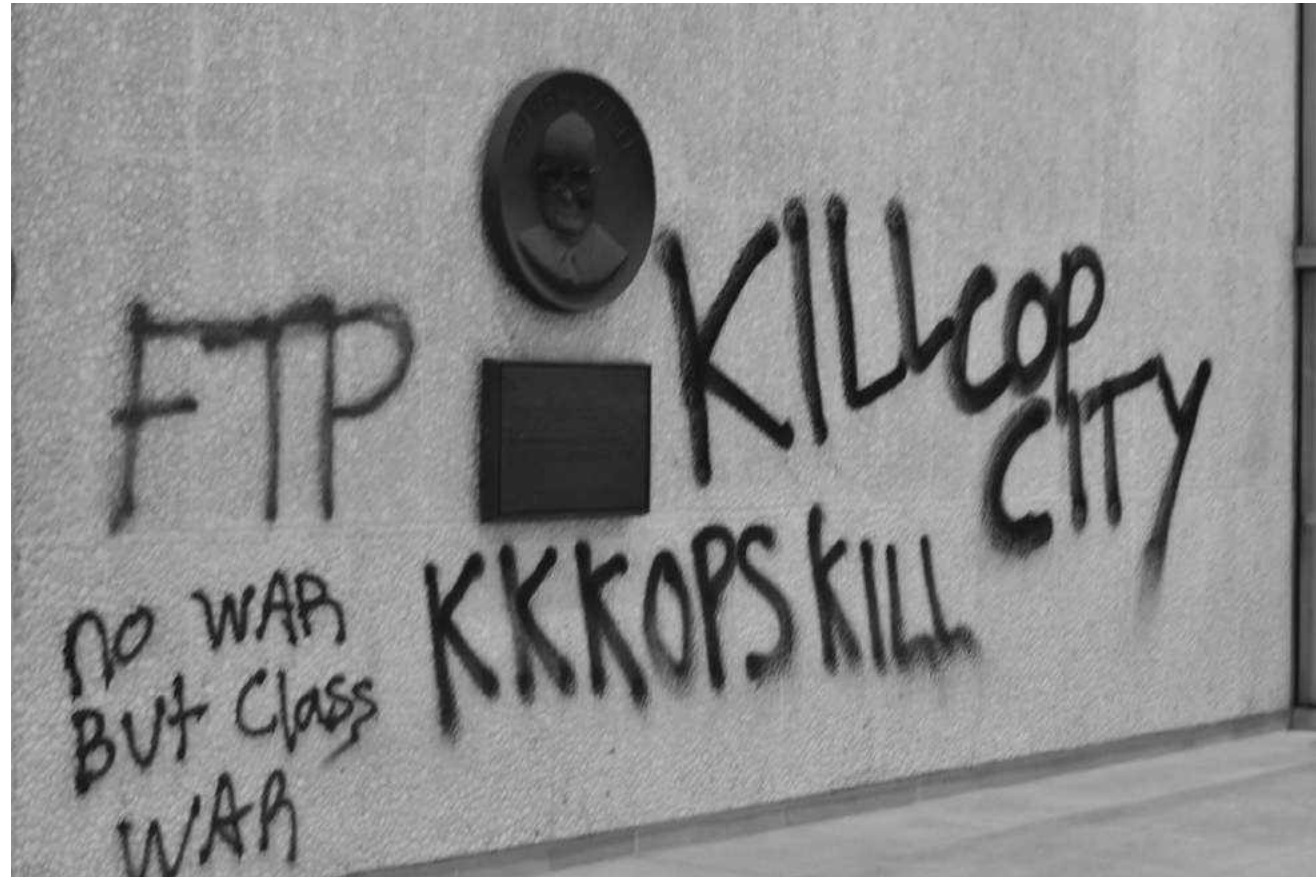
THE FLAME OF ANARCHY BURNS BRIGHT

COP CITY WILL NEVER BE BUILT

FOR A WORLD FREE OF MONEY, COPS, AND PRISONS

FOR A WORLD FILLED WITH TREES, ANIMALS, AND LIFE

WEELAUNEE PEOPLE'S FOREST FOREVER





# Pride Street Party Wrecks Cars And Covers The Street In Fresh Graffiti – San Francisco CA

June 27, 2023

June 27, 2023 Partygoers cause thousands worth of damage in SF's SoMa neighborhood SAN FRANCISCO (KGO) — Four cars were vandalized and at least half a dozen buildings were sprayed with graffiti. There are busted-out windshields and dented roofs on at least four cars on Gordon Street in the SoMa District of San Francisco. Fresh graffiti is everywhere in sight, most of which is too vulgar to print or put on television. As for what led to this, pictures from Saturday night show a massive party. Multiple neighbors say this annual underground and unsanctioned street party started after The Stud bar closed in 2020. It's a famous San Francisco LGBTQ+ establishment nearby that was also tagged. "The Stud was a trademark here for the community, I think it's been shut down for a couple years," said one neighbor. "Instead of going into The Stud now all the parties are here on the street. It's usually during Pride weekend is when the big party happens."



## Excerpt from “Shattering Abolition™: Against Reformist Counterinsurgency in the Streets of Oakland”

February 2023

What follows is a reportback on the APTP-organized “Justice for Tyre Nichols” Emergency March and Rally held on Sunday January 19, 2023 from some homies who were in attendance.... Our critiques should not be read as disingenuous, or vindictive cheap shots, targeting particular groups for petty reasons.... Rather we hope to illustrate a more general analysis of the ‘terrain of struggle’ here in Oakland through engaging with specific, concrete moments that we find particularly instructive.

[...]

January 29th, 2023—A frigid evening in downtown Oakland, throngs of people assembled on Broadway, on the block between 12th and 13th in front of Oscar Grant Plaza, blocking the street. We assembled in front of a wood-paneled truck adorned with large speakers and boldly colored banners, the command center for the rally organizers. Around 5:45 the rally program kicked off, and the diverse

crowd had swelled to perhaps over 500. The rally was much as you would expect; speaker after speaker—mostly ‘organizers’ and ‘community leaders’ from non-profit organizations like the Ella Baker Center, Urban Peace Movement, and Communities United for Youth Restorative Justice, as well as family members who lost loved ones to police violence. Like any good media spectacle, the photographers and journalists rolled deep; everywhere you looked there was a camera. As these things go, the...speakers dampened some of the crowd’s furtive energy, with the Cat Brooks show ft. APTP & Friends posturing radical and remixing the same shit we have heard dozens of times before.

[...]

As the sun set, the march began to move very slowly down Broadway, led by the truck blocking both sides of the street. Spirits began to pick up despite the cold; the feeling of solidarity and collectivity was increasingly infectious. There was a lot of anger and energy amongst the crowd again, despite over an hour of standstill listening to speech after speech after speech.

[...]

Our contingent continued down Broadway “at the community’s pace,” set by the organizers to be painfully slow. It seemed that energy was building as we moved past the banks, hotels, and fancy businesses....The march eventually climaxed in front of the OPD headquarters and positive abolition imagery and slogans, as well as remembrances for Tyre Nichols and other victims of police violence, were projected on the side of the mostly empty building. Evidently this was the highlight of the march, if we are to trust local news media’s representation of the evening...

As ATPT projected imagery on the walls of OPD, a group of around a dozen or so Black and Brown youth dressed in black had broke down barricades that had been set up in the front on 7th street.

Highlighting the presence of “families” and “elders” in the march and the need for safety, the blocc’d up youth were ordered to stand down, to “take that shit elsewhere.” Cat warned they should keep their activities away from the good, peaceful protestors, that they better not be targeting any BIPOC businesses. *or else we will be having a much more serious conversation...*

Despite their best efforts, as the march snaked down 7th Street, small groups of militants began taking action without the direction of protest leaders. The first major buildings allegedly tagged were markers of gentrification and capital, as well as alleged property damage to dozens of parking meters— technologies of the predatory state—and a Wells Fargo ATM. Incendiary slogans appeared on walls and windows alike: “RIP Tyre,” “BLM,” circle-A’s, “ACAB,” and Fuck 12.”





Emboldened white progressives—apparently the social base for APTP—leaned into their self-appointed roles as enforcers, and sought to set the situation right. Several of these ‘accomplices’ attempted to chastise these masked vandals, and arguments and light skirmishes broke out along the perimeters of the march.

[...]

The University of California Office of the President building was also tagged.

[...]

### **Our Takeaways**

There are a few core myths about the Justice for Tyre Nichols march in Oakland, organized by the Anti-Police Terror Project, that are currently circulating on social media:

**Myth 1:** the march was overwhelmingly made up of people who desired to express their outrage through the state-sanctioned, symbolic action.

**Facts:** Many people within the march were not hostile toward to defacing of property, some even expressed interest and support.

**Myth 2:** that the crowd was overwhelmingly made up of ‘vulnerable’ people who desired no conflictual tactics to be taken up and did not feel safe around people defacing property.

**Perspective:** It’s quite a stretch to label the scattered minor acts of property destruction and vandalism as a threat to the ‘safety’ of attendees. The largest contingent of people mobilized to attempt to police conflictual tactics were WHITE MEN who were following Cat Brooks call to action.

**Myth 3:** that the people engaging in conflictual tactics were a) all ‘white people’ and b) not mindful of people within the march who did not want to engage or be around such tactics

**Facts:** Given their long history APTP organizers and supporters know this assertion is untrue, but continue to mobilize this narrative time and time again to position themselves as the sole legitimate arbiters of anti-police organizing in Oakland, demanding deference from Black and ‘brown’ militants who conveniently become “white” when their course of action extends beyond policy proposals and parades. This is a liberal politics of representation to erase and silence dissent from \*within\* the ‘community.’

[...]

APTP opportunistically used this moment to **CO-OPT, DEFUSE, AND REDIRECT** - for the purposes of pushing their agenda for more reform and publicity, asserting their position of leadership within social movements and local politics.

### Scattered Thoughts on Abolitionist Street Action

- When a march like this happens in the downtown area, there is an overwhelming focus on the centralized spectacle. At the very least, a event could potentially generate some momentum, the turn-out of people grows, and buzz draws more people in. This can increase the capacity of a march to: 1) plug up major business area and 2) protect people who move fluidly through the crowd to escalate on its periphery or through breakaway groups with clear exit strategies. But this also can mistake the march as that which catalyzes revolt in the first place (a point we will return to below).
- Concentrated attention on the march in a downtown area can also free up other parts of the city, as OPD resources would focus on a single site. If a disruptive march concentrates enough attention in a downtown area, then a few things may potentially happen:
  1. Large numbers people may continue to show up and support that march;
  2. Centralized groups can act and branch off from the march in different ways, without forcing the main march to be the site of a kettle;
  3. Organized groups of people can be freed up to act autonomously in other parts of the city.
- The largest momentum killer for a march is unnecessary speeches and people attempting to control the frame of media coverage.
- While marches can be important places for people to converge and connect across a wide range of experiences navigating action in the streets, what generally escalates demos into more generalized revolt is the peripheral acts of property defacing, vandalism, and sabotage—coupled with an *actual* practice of “we keep us safe” amongst the crowd. Even if there is a wide range of people with vastly differing vulnerabilities making up the crowd marching, without a *conflictual* dimension marches stagnate and the

and taunting techies and tourists who gawked from their sidewalk seats in front of \$20 salads the size of closed fists. Chants of "Fuck your safety!"; "Fuck your security"; and "Fuck London Breed" ricocheted in surround sound off boutique storefronts and condoized apartments, and from the screeching mouths of bullhorns rose furious condemnations of cops, capitalism, and fat cat tycoons committed to the brutal project of our extermination.

Serenaded intermittently by the chaotic harmony of supportive honks, we distributed "AVENGE BANKO" flyers to curious drivers; were saluted with raised fists by local unhoused neighbors; and occasionally booed by cop-bootlickers and respectability-lovers—all equal parts of the plan. When we arrived at the 1300 block of Valencia, we stopped in front of the apartment building of local gay surveillance-loving anti-homeless fascist and District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, whose commitment to the bit has earned him great favor among local cops, business owners, developers, and YIMBYs. With an audio montage of Mandelman's good pal (and fellow fascist) London Breed's greatest hits—"Compassion is killing people," for one—streaming from a speaker, people beautified the pavement with choice messages for Mandelman, spray-painted by hand(s) with middle fingers to the sky.

After storming Mandelman's house, the crowd dispersed, leaving a trail of pro-vengeance anti-state leaflets and disturbed richies in our wake. The signs and chants disappeared into the dusk, but the messages rickrolling the neighbors and scrawled onto the sidewalk remain: it's up for Banko, it's abolish Breed and Jenkins, and it's still and forever Fuck 12.

Later in the evening, a group of abolitionists still out decided to tag up the frontside of a Walgreens with messages like “FTP/ Blood on Your Hands” and “Fuck Walgreens / RIP Banko”. Some images on the following page....

# Avenge Banko Brown

Jun 27, 2023

*On Friday, June 23rd, an autonomous group of fed-up anarchists, anti-fascists, and abolitionists gathered in the Mission District's Dolores Park to make noise and waves about the racist, anti-poor April 27th murder of Banko Brown by an armed Walgreens security guard, and to oppose the impotent, ambiguous calls for "justice" that were as far as San Francisco's increasingly corporatized Trans March was willing to push.*

## AVENGE BANKO BROWN!!!

\*\*\*A Black trans man born and raised in Frisco, Banko Brown was dispossessed by the rapaciousness of the city's real estate machine and its ruling elite. At the time of his murder, he was 24 years old and unhoused. Even as he struggled to find permanent housing, he committed time and energy to helping to seek resources for prison-impacted youth. His killing is a fucking tragedy, an abomination; and it's one of many violent products of the city's ever-escalating, multi-faceted war on its poor, unhoused, Black, and trans inhabitants who dare try to survive.\*\*\*

On Friday, June 23rd, an autonomous group of fed-up anarchists, anti-fascists, and abolitionists gathered in the Mission District's Dolores Park to make noise and waves about the racist, anti-poor April 27th murder of Banko Brown by an armed Walgreens security guard, and to oppose the impotent, ambiguous calls for "justice" that were as far as San Francisco's increasingly corporatized Trans March was willing to push.

The group that diverged and divested from Trans March™ was at least 50 strong. Armed with signs like "MONEY FOR HOUSELESS TRANS FAGS, NOT CORPORATE TRANS FLAGS"; "FROM FRISCO TO ATLANTA, COPS DON'T KEEP US SAFE"; "A QUEER LANDLORD IS STILL A LANDLORD"; and the trenchant "YIMBY POO POO," we departed the park and took to vehicular lanes along the gentrified corridor of Valencia Street, stopping traffic

symbolic protest lends itself to a larger media narrative that *criminalizes* conflictual methods where they are deployed.

» There are a few ways around this. One idea is greater coordination among autonomous networks to form breakaway groups (with exit plans and specific targets/goals) that can act to escalate how they see fit. Decentralized and based on affinity. No single group of people or collective create a universal plan for anyone to "follow." People take inspiration and interest in their own methods and targets. But a willingness to look out for each other on the ground is key. This does not take specialization of any sort. Only a willingness to keep people protected who move to take things to another level and help foster the conditions for revolt to burst open.

- Think about the state's strategies for stopping marches as a method, and the implications of this for theorizing how insurrectionary ruptures unfold, as well as how you can best contribute to pushing the boundaries of what many believe is impossible. Both are contingent on *self-activity*, taking collective action irrespective of the 'proper channels' of Organization, respectable tactics, and gatekeeping. The non-profit industrial complex's protest-spectacle-performance theater of the downtown march is not self-activity. How then do we counter / distrust these types of opportunistic control mechanisms in the street marches themselves? How can understanding such dynamics further clarify the limits and potential of marches as a form of convergence and challenge to law and order?
- At the end of the day, it's "prole" self-activity that creates the potential insurrectionary ruptures. If we believe the insurrection is integral to the historical processes of revolution, we should be looking to aid in fostering the conditions for revolt and participate in its *reproducibility*. Generalizing tactical knowledge and distributing tools is one part of the initiative, but it is more so about going out yourself and *showing how it can be done*.
- Maybe if a larger (decentralized) network of people were out there, ready and prepared to carry out some of these ideas into fruition the night would have gone differently?
- Lastly, to the anarchists, the troublemakers, the hood kids, the queers bashing back: we need to meet each other, to strengthen our networks of affinity. The pandemic and burnout have dissipated the potential for larger scale radical action. We gotta break out of our silos and talk to people outside our 'scenes' or that share our 'ideologies.' To think beyond even the spectacle of a riot or frontal clash. We can't be specialists in insurrection, that's a road to nowhere but disappointment or worse. We won't will an insurrection into existence.

- Let's think and act from the flatlands, not downtown. Leave that shit to the 'organizers.' Coordinate our own shit behind the scenes (the time of posting 'autonomous flyers' and hoping for a riot has passed), and sharpen our analysis of the present and capacity to act through love, study, and struggle.

RIP Tyre Nichols!

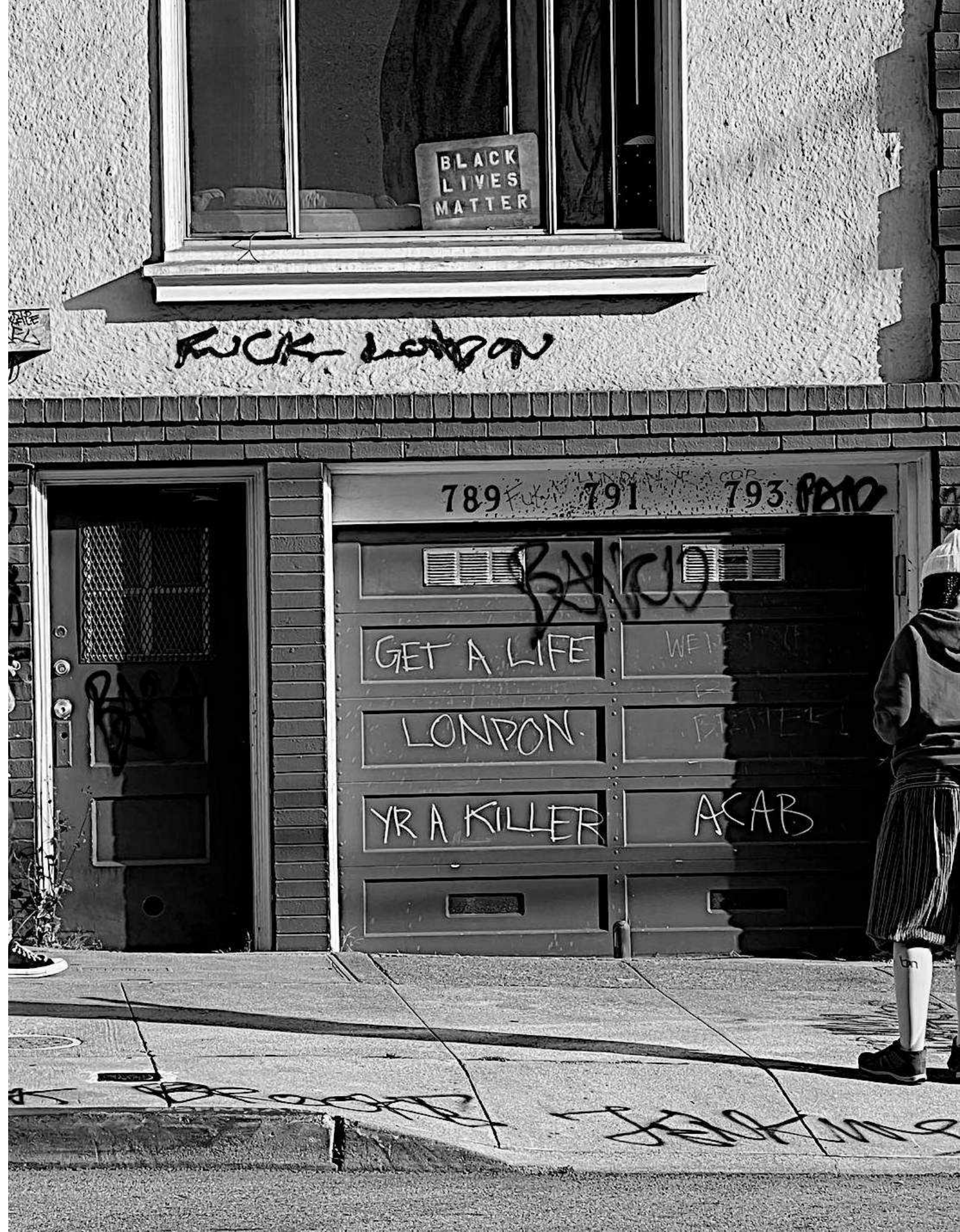
## Oakland Police Vehicle Becomes Target for Arsonists

Feb 11, 2023

Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor Sabotaged in Downtown Oakland Saturday, February 11th 2023 during the early morning between 1 and 3 am. The war against the police continues in the East Bay. One Oakland Police cruiser was sabotaged in the Police Administration building parking lot, resulting in it being towed. An accomplice looked out for oncoming traffic and returning police vehicles, while the other approached the lot from the opposite direction.

Officers lazily patrolling the area were easily clocked. There was plenty of time to open the gas cap, which was unlocked to our surprise. Torn cloth soaked in lighter fluid and isopropyl alcohol was stuffed into the gas tank. It stayed lit and ignited the rest of the gas inside, causing it to burn while cops in their SUVs watched and waited for the fire department to come. This took roughly 10-15 minutes while cops sat on their asses, afraid to approach the car.

In the name Tyre Nichols and all black people who have lost their lives to the hands of the police Fuck 12







*and a neighboring property in the Lower Haight neighborhood covered in black spray paint. Other messages were scrawled on the sidewalk and street pavement. The messages included vulgar language directed at Breed and Jenkins, with one message on the garage of Breed's home reading: "Get a life London yr a killer."*

Other tagging read: "F— Brooke Jenkins," "Rest in peace Banko" and "ACAB," an acronym for the phrase "all cops are bastards."

The march finally circled back toward the park, with people standing together holding banners and a few speakers addressing the crowd – completely de-legitimizing every rich gentrifier's Friday leisurely stroll in the park, made possible by ongoing Black, Brown, and Native displacement and death.

Hopefully there are more of these actions. And soon.

A fire only needs a spark and smoke signals are a great way to communicate.



People who spoke were from the city, grew up in the city, live in the city, and deal with the state and capital's bullshit there on a daily. It was beautiful to see, and to learn from the occasion. People need to support each other when calls are made across cities in the same local area. So we showed out.

The march gathered at Alamo Square Park. Once there was about 30-50 people (maybe more—it was hard to tell because at certain points people on the streets kind of surrounded the path), the march proceeded into the streets. If I remember correctly it lasted about an hour. People took the streets with large banners that read “Avenge Banko Brown” and “Abolish Breed and Jenkins,” [a reference to the Mayor and the District Attorney]. There were homies on bikes peripherally and people also carried signs with anti-gentrification and anti-police messages.

Throughout the march some people in bloc tagged “Banko” everywhere, “housing for everyone” on abandoned buildings, “FTP” on No Parking signs and on moving MUNI buses. They also tagged over the “slow street” signs, which was funny. Speakers on a mega phone were sharing short speeches condemning the violence as gentrifiers and wealthy techies were going about their daily life, retelling the stories of SFPD terror and resistance over the past two decades. They condemned the white supremacy, anti-Blackness, and the colonizer world of San Francisco perpetuated by politicians and the owning class. There was also a steady stream of chants that carried the energy between stops.

According to local news reports, the home of the Mayor was also vandalized with graffiti slogans:

*Vandals spray-painted graffiti across San Francisco Mayor London Breed's home this past weekend, criticizing her and District Attorney Brooke Jenkins over their stances on the controversial killing of Banko Brown. The Mayor's Office confirmed the incident occurred Saturday, leaving the facade of her apartment*



# California Prisoner Ends Hunger Strike to Protest Jail Conditions

*Jazz Svarda began a hunger strike at the Santa Rita Jail after swallowing a staple he believes was intentionally placed in his food.*

May 3, 2023

By Char Adams (NBC)

A prisoner at an infamous California jail led a hunger strike to protest poor food quality, lacking medical care and retaliation from jail staff.

Jazz Svarda, 34, was among several prisoners taking part in a hunger strike for about two weeks at Santa Rita Jail, an Alameda County facility with a history of health and safety violations. He ended his protest Monday, he said, for fear that jail staff would not help him if he were to face a health emergency as a result of the strike.

“My health was declining way too fast,” Svarda said, noting that he’s now relying on food purchased from the commissary rather than eating meals provided by the jail. “I’m afraid if I go too far, they’ll just let me die. But I’m still holding them accountable, I’m still putting in grievances. I still haven’t eaten their food, because it’s traumatizing that trash is in the food. I don’t trust them.”

Svarda began the strike late last month after swallowing a staple in his breakfast that became lodged in his throat, Svarda’s friend Hana Sallak, who has been in daily contact with Svarda, said he told her. “He felt like he was choking,” she added. He managed to pull it out, but he told her he did not receive adequate medical attention after the incident.

“He feels like that was done in retaliation because he’s always asking for badge numbers and filing grievances,” Sallak said. “What are the chances that a staple would be in his food?”

Svarda was booked into the Dublin, California facility in January...

Svarda told KTVU that he and other prisoners are urging jail officials to address a bevy of alleged issues: retaliation from staff, delayed or no medical care, moldy bathrooms, poor working conditions and missing mail.

# San Francisco Takes To The Streets Against The Murder Of Banko Brown

Jun 12, 2023



***Report on recent march in San Francisco, California against the murder of Banko Brown, who was shot and killed by a Walgreens security guard.***

Two days ago, I went to a march in San Francisco. While I’m not from the city, which might be controversial, I have been outraged over the murder of Banko Brown since the Walgreens cop killed him on April 27th. I came across a flyer for the march two days prior, and hit up some friends, who hit up other friends. A few of us showed out, we don’t live far away. Most of the people at the march were from SF though. A few people came out in solidarity from other cities. This was really inspiring to see. And against any liberal counter-insurgency narrative of “outside agitators,” this was a deeply local thing.

# Party Balloons

June 7, 2023

from [scenes.noblogs.org/](https://scenes.noblogs.org/)

We tagged Stop Cop City and threw paint balloons at the windows of 555 12th Street, Oakland, the building where Alta Vista Solutions, a subsidiary of Atlas has an office. A security guard chased us off before we'd used all our balloons so we stopped by a Bank of America to unload the rest. Clearly the City Council doesn't give a shit about the overwhelming opposition to their piggy playground. Make them regret voting yes. The frontlines are everywhere! Viva Tortuguita If you build it, it's getting unbuilt 😊

Svarda's situation follows a string of controversies at Santa Rita Jail. Last week, a prisoner whose name has not been released, died after he was found frantically drinking water and vomiting inside his cell. It marked the fifth reported death at the jail this year.

Advocacy groups like Critical Resistance, Restore Oakland and the Care First Community Coalition have rallied outside the jail to protest the number of in-custody deaths....

The Care First Community Coalition championed "Care First, Jails Last," a policy Alameda County adopted in 2021 to expand community services and reduce the number of people with mental health issues and drug dependency incarcerated at Santa Rita Jail....

"Nearly 70 people have died in Santa Rita Jail since 2014, and we are tracking five deaths this year alone," George said, noting that prisoners with mental health or drug issues are especially vulnerable. "Instead of being treated in community, or properly housed, they are being placed knowingly into unsafe conditions that are not suitable for their healing or recovery."

A KTVU investigation found that Santa Rita Jail had 13.6 deaths per 1,000 inmates over a five-year period, surpassing the Los Angeles County jail system, the largest in the country, which had 8.9 deaths.

Along with the dozens of deaths at the jail since 2014, the facility has been the subject of numerous lawsuits since at least the mid-1990s. In a report released last year, the Alameda County grand jury detailed myriad issues at the jail, including unsanitary living conditions, poor health care, poor food quality and a culture of abuse toward prisoners.

"The presence of feces smeared on walls and foul odors in several cells described as being available for immediate occupancy suggests to the Grand Jury a systemic issue with the quality of cleaning and sanitation of temporary occupancy cells," the grand jury report states.

Seven people died at the jail in 2021, according to the report. And Covid ravaged the facility, with 20% of prisoners testing positive for the virus at the peak of an unprecedented outbreak in January 2022, according to the report.

[...]

A year before the grand jury released its report, an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division found that Santa Rita Jail violated the Americans with Disabilities Act by discriminating against prisoners with mental health issues, placing them in restrictive housing and failing to provide

adequate mental health care. As a result, at least 14 prisoners died by suicide between 2015 and 2019, the investigation found. And two prisoners died by suicide at the jail within two months of the report being published.

As for Svarda, although he ended the hunger strike, he's going to continue documenting mistreatment at the facility, he said.

Svarda said, "They're lying and not holding each other accountable, and I'm gonna expose that."

nearby roof that read, "From the Bay to the A, No Cop City Anywhere" and lit red, black, and green smoke. A few blocks later the march ended at Lake Merritt where participants made some spontaneous speeches before dispersing.

The fight to stop Cop City and protect the forest and our comrades won't end after one or two actions. Such a victory will require continued, consistent action against the insurers who underwrite the project, the consultants who plan it, the investors who fund it, and the state that demands and protects it. Keep your eyes open for more opportunities to join the movement or plan your own actions – we're just getting started.

Alongside the bludgeons of the state, Cop City's construction relies on support from dozens of corporate partners and investors. The May 30th march in Oakland drew attention to three of those partners' local downtown offices.

The crowd slowly gathered in the south end of Oscar Grant Plaza, with flyers dispersed describing local corporate sites connected to the Atlanta Police Foundation and construction of the facility. Atlas Consultants is contracted with the construction company working on the project (Brasfield and Gorrie) and located downtown on 12th Street. Wells Fargo, is in the same building and has been a core contributor to the Atlanta Police Foundation. Also housed in the same building are executives of the real estate firm Cushman and Wakefield, who sit on the board of the police foundation. The flyers passed out explained how what is taking place in Atlanta is not just a local struggle happening "over there," but interconnected with drives to expand the U.S. police state everywhere in reaction to several successive months of anti-policing revolt.

Once about roughly 70 people had arrived, the crowd was welcomed by Weelaunee Defense Oakland. A member of Critical Resistance then related the lessons learned from the successful Stop Urban Shield campaign to the current struggle in Atlanta. The backers of the proposed training facility in Atlanta want it to become a hub for the proliferation of state violence, facilitating inter-regional and even international exchanges between policing agencies.

When the talking ended and the music started, people took to the streets behind banners that read, "Defiende El Bosque, Chinga La Policia" and "Divest from Cop City." There was another banner with an image of George Jackson, reading: "They have learned that resistance is possible. The holds are beginning to slip away."

After marching down Broadway and 12th street, the crowd entered the lobby of 555 12th St. where Atlas, Wells Fargo, and Cushman & Wakefield all have offices. Upon entering, protesters scattered leaves and twigs across the floor in order to bring the forest inside. People condemned Cop City partners by chanting, "Atlas Consultants/Cushman & Wakefield/Wells Fargo blood on your hands" and remembered our friend with "Viva, viva Tortuguita." The security guard working the desk called for back up that never came. After holding the space for a few minutes the crowd exited the lobby and continued marching.

En route to the next stop, some folks left a few anti-police tags in their wake. One person tagged messaging for Banko Brown, a Black trans man recently murdered by a security guard at a San Francisco Walgreens, on the Walgreens nearby. Other anti-zionist tags were painted, illuminating the connection between Israeli and U.S. law enforcement that will be enabled by the Cop City facility. As the demonstration passed 15th St., some friends unfurled a banner from a

## Graffiti Writers Are Painting Over A Pro-Police "Street Art" Campaign Backed By A Tech Billionaire In San Francisco

May 22, 23

A "street art" campaign backed by Welsh tech billionaire and venture capitalist Michael Moritz is being targeted by graffiti artists in San Francisco, California. The campaign features posters and even wheat-pastes which call for a "law and order" approach to homelessness and fentanyl related deaths in San Francisco.



Graffiti reads, "Fuck Michael Moritz!" Source: Indybay.org

Moritz, in an effort to further socially cleanse the poor from urban core areas, along with many on the Right, have rushed to blame “the Left” for rising homelessness, crime rates and drug use in San Francisco. In February, the *New York Times* published an editorial by Moritz entitled, *Even Democrats Like Me Are Fed Up With San Francisco*, which echoed far-Right talking points demonizing those most displaced and excluded from the capitalist system. As Tim Redmond of *48 Hills* wrote:

The only “tyranny of the minority” that’s happened in San Francisco in the past 40 years is the dominance of a few big business leaders and plutocrats who have funded campaigns that have kept their allies in the Mayor’s Office. But local graffiti artists in San Francisco hit back on the billionaire backed “street art” campaign. According to a post on *Indybay.org*:

Under the cover of night, with the Frisco fog as our accomplice, a crew of friends vandalized over 10 of the right-wing, pro-police “Fentalyfe” street poster installations.

We painted messages such as “Narcans Saves Lives, Cops Kill People,” “The War On Drugs Failed,” “TogetherSF = SFPD,” “Cops Sell Fentanyl,” “Fuck You Fascists,” and “Fuck Michael Moritz.”



Graffiti reads, “TogetherSF = SFPD!” TogetherSF is a publication owned by tech billionaire Michael Moritz.

## From The Bay To The A, No Cop City Anywhere: Report From The Stop Cop City Solidarity March In Oakland

***Report from recent march in Oakland in solidarity with the struggle to stop the massive counter-insurgency Cop City project in Atlanta, Georgia.***

On May 30th, 2023, approximately 70 people gathered in Oakland at Oscar Grant Plaza, hitting the streets in solidarity with the struggle to Stop Cop City and defenders of the Weelaunee Forest. The following is a short account of the march and demonstration.

For over two years, an abolitionist campaign has been underway to halt construction of a police mega training facility in Atlanta that would destroy large swathes of the Weelaunee Forest. Hundreds upon thousands of people have taken action, ranging from outreach in communities impacted by the proposed facility, to pressuring local government, to forest occupations and autonomous acts of sabotage and destruction of construction sites. Forest defenders have faced serious repression, including the murder of our beloved compá Tortuguita, the use of RICO charges and “terrorism enhancements,” mass detentions, and FBI raids.





These disturbing posters are part of a \$300k campaign, by reactionary group Together SF (who are funded by billionaire venture capitalist Michael Moritz), that is shaming drug and Narcan users, and calling for the racist criminalization of poor people. They are also calling for the criminalization of graffiti while themselves wheat pasting posters on the streets.

These fascists will never win the terrains of street art or graffiti; they will never have the streets. We call on all creative vandals to resist the fascist creep into our visual landscape.

Against police, prisons, politicians, billionaire capitalists, and their society.  
For care, love, and solidarity.

The recent “street art” campaign backed by Moritz comes as anger is boiling over against the recent killing of Banko Brown, a 24 year-old Black transgender man who was shot and killed by a security guard at a Walgreens on April 27th. The district attorney of San Francisco decided that the city would not seek charges against the security guard, who shot and killed Brown after accusing him of shoplifting and physically attacking him inside the store.

This decision by the district attorney to not prosecute Brown’s murderer comes hot on the heels of attempts by the city’s Mayor, London Breed, to re-ignite drug-war era policies and increase sweeps of houseless encampments. Just as with the brutal murder of Jordan Neely on a New York City subway, Brown’s murder and the state’s subsequent passive support sends the message that vigilante violence against the houseless and poor, especially people of color and queer and trans folks, is not only encouraged, *but sanctioned*.

Center to promoting this narrative have been corporations like Walgreens, who have waged a propaganda campaign falsely claiming increased shoplifting has led to the closure of multiple stores across the city. In reality, in the post-pandemic world, not only are people more strapped for cash and less apt to spend money on goods, but those with extra money to spend are more likely to buy online and are also increasingly working from home remotely; leading to a decrease in foot traffic in major cities. As *Axios* reported:

San Francisco’s sluggish recovery is due at least in part to its heavy concentration of tech workers — many of whom decamped elsewhere amid the pandemic — as well as a shortage of affordable housing.

In fact, recent investigations have shown that stores like Walgreens overinflated claims of “crime.” According to *The Guardian*:

A major US drugstore chain that supposedly experienced a surge in shoplifting last year – fanning the flames of conservative outrage over a purported spike in crime and disorder – said on Thursday that it might have overstated the problem. “Maybe we cried too much last year when we were hitting numbers that were 3.5% of sales,” Kehoe said, according to an [earnings call transcript](#). “We’re down in the lower twos, call it, the mid-2.5, 2.6 kind of range now.”

While shoplifting might not have hurt Walgreens’ bottom line as much as it once thought, the company said it suffered a \$3.7bn loss in its first quarter, partly relating to litigation over the US opioid epidemic, which has killed [hundreds of thousands](#) of Americans in the last decade. Walgreens reached an opioid-related settlement with state and local governments last quarter to pay \$5.7bn over 15 years.

Regardless of the facts, this anti-poor and anti-houseless hysteria has reached epic heights. On April 4th of this year, [Bob Lee, the founder of CashApp, was stabbed to death](#) and many quickly rushed to blame a houseless person. In reality, Lee’s killer was a “tech executive in San Francisco [who] also worked in the tech industry.” Meanwhile, across the country, [acts of violence against the houseless are increasing, including in San Francisco](#). As *Forbes* reported: Former San Francisco fire commissioner Don Carmignani is facing accusations he was behind a series of attacks on homeless people, after a lawyer for a man accused of beating him reportedly said in court Wednesday she’d uncovered evidence suggesting that Carmignani might have attacked homeless people with bear spray.

Rising rents, flattening wages, and cuts to social services – policies backed by the billionaire class of both parties have led to the current crisis in San Francisco, a situation which has only worsened since the pandemic. These are the same factors pushing out working and middle-class workers from urban cores, which in turn are causing the closure of many retail stores, like Walgreens. Increased police repression and “law and order” policies won’t address any of these problems, which in turn are feeding the growing mental health and drug overdose crises.



Graffiti reads, “Narcans Saves Lives, Cops Kill People!” “Fuck Your Fascists!”  
Source: [Indybay.org](#)

Capitalism offers no solutions – only more police in an attempt to keep everything from falling apart. What is needed are movements, struggles, and actions from below which meet our needs directly, outside and against the interests of the rich who control and benefit from this disaster.